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Ward 6 Newsletter

Tucson First

August 31, 2015

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Work Stoppage



Two weeks ago, I laid out the terms of the Teamster negotiating demands. They've come down from the opening \$20M package. Now they're asking us to increase our General Fund obligation for Sun Tran by what would amount to about \$6M annually in three years.

Last week, I shared the safety-related policies that Professional Transit

Management (PTM) has implemented. They were put into place in response to claims by operators that the bus system is unsafe for operators and, by extension, for riders. I take exception to that premise. We have over 19 million fares annually, and fewer than 25 reported incidents of trouble. That's the perspective.

Some have called on Sun Tran management to go and find internal savings to help fund the pay increases being requested at the bargaining table. We've asked that of



Important Phone Numbers

Tucson Police
Department
911 or nonemergency
791-4444

Water Issues 791-3242/800-598-9449 Emergency: 791-4133

Street Maintenance 791-3154

Graffiti Removal 792-2489

Abandoned Shopping Carts 791-3171

Neighborhood Resources 837-5013

SunTran/SunLink 792-9222 TDD: 628-1565

Environmental Services 791-3171

Park Wise 791-5071

Planning and Development Services 791-5550

Pima Animal Care Center 724-5900

Pima County Vector
Control
Con

Cockroach: **443-6501** Mosquito: **243-7999**

Continued: A Message From Steve

Sun Tran during each of the last two budget sessions. They've responded, but at some point you squeeze the rock dry and have to conclude the system is operating efficiently from an administrative perspective. Here's a list of what PTM has already done to get leaner internally:

- a) From FY'01 through FY'13, they matched the City wage freeze for administrative staff.
- b) Since FY'08, administrative health benefits have been reduced by a quarter million dollars
- c) In the same year, they also implemented a new Sun Van fare system, saving \$135K over two years.
- d) In FY'11, they laid off 15 administrative employees, saving \$617K annually.
- e) They restructured Sun Van driver shifts in 2012 to save an additional \$230K annually.
- f) In FY'13, they decreased Sun Tran parts costs per mile and negotiated additional savings on bus component repairs, saving an additional \$350K.
 - g) They froze compensation bumps on their own management contract for six years and further reduced staff.
- h) They used PTM corporate resources to complete our Comprehensive Operational Analysis which saved us approximately \$350K. The results of the study could have saved us an additional \$4.8M in fare and route changes. We implemented \$110K of them.
- i) They've secured over \$10M in Federal transportation grants to purchase 23 new buses since 2010 and to upgrade our compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station.
- j) They've recaptured \$150K in labor expenses for Sun Shuttle marketing and assumed operation of City Special Services Office, which saved an additional \$78K.

Last fiscal year we asked for an updated summary to help us avoid going over the \$30M General Fund allocation to the system. Here's the full list of how Sun Tran stepped up to help:

Additional FY2015 Internal Savings		
Service	Description	Est. Savings
Sun Tran	Reduced cost of parts due to purchase off Veolia Corporation contracts, reduced overtime, and savings in materials and supplies.	\$700,000
Sun Van	Reduced liability insurance costs, fuel savings and savings in materials and supplies	\$300,000
Total		\$1,000,000

Additional FY2015 Revenue		
Service	Description	Est. Savings
Sun Link	A request has been made to the Regional Transportation Authority for \$2 million in RTA funding of the Sun Link operations for FY2015. This request is an increase of \$800,000 from the current revenue forecast of \$1.2 million.	\$800,000

Additional FY2015 Revenue		
Service	Description	Est. Savings
Sun Link	Increased fare revenue of \$500,000 resulting from	\$500,000
	UA promotion of UPass program. Total fare	
	revenue forecast for Sun Link is \$1.2 million.	
Sun Link	Advertising revenue for the Sun Link streetcar	\$100,000
	vehicles starting in August 2014.	
Sun Tran	Increase in FTA preventative maintenance funds	\$600,000
Sun Tran	Decrease in RTA IGA revenue due to additional FTA	(\$160,000)
	preventative maintenance funds	
Sun Van	The application for State DDD/DES reimbursement	\$250,000
	was submitted on February 18, 2014. The	
	estimated reimbursement for FY2015 has been	
	reduced to \$250,000 due to the longer than	
	anticipated application and review period.	
Sun Van	The City applied for FTA 5310 Grant to offset costs	\$250,000
	for optional ADA service area and has been notified	
	that it will receive the grant.	
Total		\$2,340,000

Total Est. Internal Savings and Revenue	\$3 340 000
Total Est. Internal Savings and Nevende	\$5,540,000

It's clear that PTM has done its part to reduce expenses, and we have offered no new revenues to the system.

What about the cost savings we're alleged to be receiving due to reduced operations during the strike? When I was asked that last week on the John C. Scott radio show, I suggested that the figure being tossed around by the Teamsters is both inflated and fails to net out lost revenue due to lost business, lost wages, and other impacts. Here's a chart that shows just a part of that netting out process:

Change	Amount	Description
Reduced Expense	\$600,000	Savings from bargaining unit payroll, fuel and vehicle maintenance
Reduced Revenue	-\$240,000	Less passenger and IGA revenue (Inc. cost to extend 30-day pass)
Additional Cost	-\$215,000	Additional costs for services provided

Total Net Savings per Week: \$145,000

These savings will be reduced even further as Sun Tran puts more routes back into service. The City is not taking this strike to the bank and balancing the budget with it. It's a loss for the community, hurting riders and businesses.

Others have called on Sun Tran to get 'back to the table.' They've already emptied the budget we gave to them onto the negotiating table. They've invited the Teamsters to take those dollars and allocate them to whatever area in the compensation package they want; just don't overdraft the account. They're at the table waiting.

During that waiting process, and in response to pressure from some City representatives to resume negotiating, Sun Tran did what they invited the Teamsters to do – that is, move around some of the dollars in the form of a new offer. Because they took some non-taxable



Important Phone Numbers

> Senator John McCain (R) 520-670-6334

Senator Jeff Flake (R) 520-575-8633

Congresswoman Martha McSally (R) (2nd District) (202) 225-2542 Tucson Office: 520-881-3588

Congressman Raul Grijalva (D) (3th District) 520-622-6788

Governor Doug Ducey (R) 602-542-4331 Tucson office: 520-628-6580

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild 520-791-4201

ZoomTucson Map http:// maps.tucsonaz.gov /zoomTucson/ benefits and moved them over to wages, the initial level of wage increases had to be reduced in order to take the new payroll taxes into account. Because of the impact that the new taxes had on the original wage rates, the union along with some members of the media said they had reduced the original offer. Not true. The value of the entire package was kept at the \$2.7M.

The Mayor and Council cannot get directly involved, but we are free to express our opinions. Mine is that the union should act on the offer made by Sun Tran and get back to work.

Phoenix Prop 104

...so we need to find a dedicated funding source for transit. And we need to find one for road repair. I've said for four years that we have such an animal waiting to be put to the voters: the existing RTA sales tax. In fairness, I've touted that as a way to fix our roads, but let's take a quick look at what the City of Phoenix voters approved last week and expand the idea.

Prop 104 up in Phoenix was moving a .40% sales tax up to .70%, and using the funds to pay for their light rail, bike lanes, and road repair. It passed 55% to 45%.

Right now, we pay a half-cent sales tax that is earmarked for expanding road capacity. It also goes to paying for out of town transit connector routes and other transit functions, safety, and environmental projects. But over half of the \$2.1B the tax is anticipated to generate goes to expanding our existing roadway infrastructure. With that expansion comes an increase in maintenance obligations.

We pay about \$30M from our General Fund for Sun Tran. We pay another \$12M for Sun Van. I have previously suggested we ask the voters if they'd agree to allocate a small portion of the RTA tax to road repair. Let's expand the conversation; increase the sales tax by another half-cent and earmark half of that to road repair and the other half to operating the transit system. Transfer the management of that system to the RTA and let's have a truly regional system. Yes, the City would have to cede the right to decide fares and routing to the RTA, but the switch would ease the stress on our General Fund and put a funding source for fixing the roads into place. Right now, all we have for our roads is debt and a reliance on the State to send us our gas tax revenue.

Here's the easy arithmetic. Adding a half cent (based on current RTA projections) yields \$100M annually. Take half of that and allocate it to Sun Tran operations. That takes our General Fund out of the conversation and we can refocus that \$30M on things like new public safety vehicles. Take the other half and allocate it to road repair. That means we don't have to pay for fixing the roads with long term debt. The entire region benefits under both parts of the new taxes, and your property tax increases are offset (no need for bonding).

We've clearly got to find a new model for funding road repairs and transit operations. I'm advocating that the Board of Supervisors puts the RTA question to the voters. What's the alternative you hear others suggesting?

More Hits to the General Fund

And while I'm on the issue of dollars and cents, the General Fund, General Services, and I Tucson Water are taking a combined revenue hit of right at \$150K this year. The reason? We've invested in three different forms of Federal bonds, each of which were reduced through the Federal budget sequestration process by 6.8%. The specific amounts are:

General Fund - \$74,647.35 General Services - \$20,958.16 Tucson Water - \$53,887.87

While those numbers aren't going to break the bank, they're headed in the wrong direction in a year when we're going to start out in a deficit situation again.

We simply have to get creative in funding some of our core responsibilities. Turning to debt isn't the long term answer.

Open Government Initiative

One of the pillars of what my office stands for is openness and engaging multiple voices in conversations on policy. To that end, I've hosted numerous meetings in which we had very diverse groups of participants at the table, with the intent of laying everyone's cards out and sorting our way through to a piece of policy that reflects the common good, not one side or the other.

A part of being empowered to adequately participate in those meetings is to come informed.



The control of information is something the elite always does, particularly in a despotic form of government. Information, knowledge, is power. If you can control information, you can control people.

(Tom Clancy)

Throughout Ward 6, we have some very savvy residents who take the time to self-teach. And yet, if everybody doesn't have access to the same database, the outcomes are rigged.

We've been working with a software vendor to come up

with a new, robust, and more user-friendly way to access all sorts of City data. This new Open Government Data Portal will launch on a pilot basis later this fall. We've hosted two public meetings here at the Ward office with staff and the vendors (Socrata) to listen to stakeholder input as to what they'd like to see in the system. Staff has been making the rounds to multiple potential user groups to do the same.

Among other things, the new software will make information on City employees, information on our budget, crime data, business licenses, information related to Neighborhood Associations that are registered with the City, and Fire Department response times accessible to citizens. I think what will be of most interest to the people who attended our meetings with the vendor will be the ability to track City Code violations and building permits more effectively than is now the case.

You'll be able to access the Portal from the City's main webpage. We're going to add an

Open Government icon that will link to multiple data sites.

City of Tucson Homepage



Those will include eight main links, including Open Data Portal, Open Budget, Purchasing, Projects, Plan Tucson, City Governance, Maps, and Public Participation.

Link to Open

Government

Homepage

Open Government Homepage



Once the data is published it will be available to anybody to log in to view. If you create a permanent link to some of the data in the form of graphs, charts, or tables, they will be automatically updated as things change on the main site. The visuals can also be shared in neighborhood communications. All of this will make it easier for you to keep track of projects and code issues as they make their way through the system.

I know I'll be able to count on many of you to provide real-time input as to how the Portal is working for you. Changes will be made during and after the pilot period. Over time, the goal is to make information flow easy, complete, and most importantly transparent and open. I'll make sure to share the launch date with you as it gets closer. Look for this sometime in either late September or early October.

Historic Preservation Tax Incentives

Join us at the Ward 6 Office on Wednesday, September 23rd for an event on historic preservation tax incentives. You may find out that you're paying much more in property taxes on your home than you need to, and we'll have the experts in the field present to explain how you can sign onto those savings.

The City's Historic Preservation Program is operated out of the Office of Integrated Planning. That's a mouthful, but the event on the 23rd will boil it all down into some easy-to-understand pieces that may save you a considerable amount of money. In the process, you'll become an active participant in preserving the local historic built environment.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) oversees both residential and commercial programs. In the residential program, by listing your (owner occupied) home on the National Register, you may end up reducing your property tax by up to 50% over a period of 15 years. On the commercial side, improvements to Nationally Registered properties are assessed at 1% of the full cash value for 10 years. The goal is to get businesses established, make improvements that maintain the historic status, and relieve the burden of increased property taxes.

There are also programs related to rehabilitation of income-producing properties that are listed individually and to historic district contributors in the National Register of Historic Places. For non-historic buildings that were built prior to 1936, there are rehab tax credits you can also benefit from.

The real focus of the 23rd is to get your residential units signed up for the property tax reductions. I'm told that somewhere around 80% of potentially eligible homeowners are not signed up.

The meeting will begin at 5:30pm. We'll have the forms and the people on hand to walk you through the requirements. Many thanks to Jonathan Mabry from the Historic Preservation Office and Jennifer Levstik from the Office of Integrated Planning for agreeing to come and lead this event. In addition to Jonathan and Jennifer, Pamela Biggers from the Pima County Assessor's Office will be present to help you out. These are the experts, so if you think your home might qualify, come on over with your questions. You may realize substantial returns just for investing the evening.

Community Media / Downtown Radio

A while back, we put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to make some budget-driven changes related to how we televise M&C meetings, promote and market the City, and continue community access to over-the-air television. A part of the RFP incorporated some level of workforce training in the media arts area. Last week, procurement issued a Notice of Intent to award that agreement to a coalition of partners.

The partners making up the team include Brink Media, KXCI Community Radio, and WaveLab Recording Studio. Together, they checked all of the boxes we had included in the RFP.

Brink is a digital production agency. They're involved with things like web design, lots of social media content, video, and producing indie films. They're also the home to Jim Nintzel's show "Zona Politics."



You know KXCI (91.3FM) as the downtown radio station that's already plugged into the community pulse, and WaveLab is home to Calexico's Tucson-based recording studio. Together, this team knows Tucson, has a sense of the importance of maintaining community access to the airwaves, and will bring a new and vibrant creativity to the content you'll see promoting who we are and what Tucson has to offer for visitors and residents

alike.

The Community Media Center will run Cox Channels 12 and 20. They'll broadcast M&C meetings and work with our economic initiatives team to help develop marketing strategies related to growing the local economy. After a 10 day waiting period (protest period) we'll sign the team on and begin transitioning into this new relationship.

9912 DOWNTOWN/RADIO

But there's more coming in the downtown radio environment.
Launching in the first week of September, Ja-

son LeValley and a group of about a dozen DJs will introduce some music/talk programming just a couple of notches up the dial from KXCI. The music will be rock from both local bands and 'name' bands. In the case of the more recognizable groups, they'll be playing some of the less familiar pieces they've cut. You'll hear music dating from the 'British Invasion,' moving forward to today. The talk portion of the format will be centered around behavioral health, with nonprofits speaking to what they offer in the region and likely individual testimonials from people who have wrestled with related issues and now can serve as models of successfully turning their lives around.

We have plenty of services being provided to a large client base that lives with behavioral health challenges. Getting that menu of available options out is the non-musical mission of 99.1FM Downtown Radio. If you'd like to know more about this mission, check out downtownradio.org. They're actively hiring DJs for the launch. You can find out more about that at their website, too.

Tucson Pops Orchestra

And while I'm in the 'community gems' mode, on Sunday, September 13th at 7pm, the Tucson Pops Orchestra will begin their three week Fall run out at the Reid Park bandshell. Under the leadership of Conductor Laszlo Veres, they'll bring this season's highly acclaimed and appreciated production. The show on the 13th will include pieces such as Bizet's *Carmen*, the second movement of *Concierto de Aranuez* by Joaquín Rodrigo, some Boogie Woogie, "Malaguena," the theme from *Exodus*, and much more.

These shows are free, and there will be a food truck round-up on site so you can plan on an evening under the stars with options for food and drink nearby.





We're proud to join the Arizona Commission on the Arts in bringing Tucson Pops to you again this year.

Service Line Warranty Program

Last year, we signed onto a partnership with a program run through Service Line Warranties of America. It's the insurance you can buy to protect yourself in case of a break in the portion of the water line that runs from your home out to the utility connection. That piping is your responsibility, and it can be costly to repair if it goes south.

I've written about this before, and want to reiterate here that this is a totally optional program, and one that will – or will not – benefit you based on the age of the lines servicing your house. If they're new, you likely won't benefit from this. If they're old, you might.

The program provides repair coverage up to \$4,000 per incident. They add an additional \$4K if you need to cut into the street as a part of the repairs. So far, slightly over 15,000 of you have signed up, and 851 claims have been successfully resolved since the program began back in June, 2014.

I'm sharing this item now because soon you'll be seeing the notice in the mail related to signing up again. It will contain all of the information you will need if you'd like to take part. In the alternative, you can request to be taken off from any future solicitations pretty simply. If that's what you want, just call 1.866.922.9006 and ask them to no longer contact you about this program. You'll still get the one this fall, but no more after that.

Now, if you'd like not to receive any direct solicitations from anybody ever again, you can go to the Direct Mail Association. It's a national nonprofit that keeps a list of "Do Not Solicit" requests. They can sign you up for both the water/sewer line warranty do not solicit lists, and any others you may not want ending up in your mailbox.

I've been asked whether the water line warranty is a good program or not. The simple answer is that it is, if you need it, and that's a function of the age of your property. I'm not signed up, but I know people who are – peace of mind.

The Center for the Future of Arizona / The Arizona We Want

When I saw that statistic, I really didn't believe it was accurate. I still don't. And yet, it was the result of a Gallup poll conducted around the State. It was included in a report issued by the Center for the Future of Arizona – The Arizona We Want. If only 12% of Arizonan's believe others in the community care about one another, that's sad.

12%

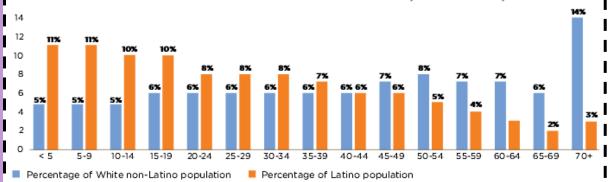
of Arizonans believe the people in their community care about one another.

GALLUP ARIZONA POLL

More on that below.

Before I give examples to dispel the notion that people in Tucson don't care about one another (maybe that's Maricopa County), I'll share some other data from the study that's critical for us to keep in mind. One is the age distribution of the population in the State. This graph breaks the population down by age and by ethnicity ('white/non-Latino' in blue, and Latino in orange).

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF ARIZONA RESIDENTS BY ETHNICITY, BY PERCENT, 2010



Source: ASU Morrison Institute, Dropped? Latino Education and Arizona's Economic Future

We hear that soon we'll be a 'minority majority' population. These data prove the claim. Why does that matter? Well, for lots of reasons, but not the least of which is we need to embrace educational achievement among Latino kids. Obviously it's important for all kids, but as educational attainment goes, so goes the State economy. For example:

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN ARIZONA

35.3%

27.1%

23.0%

13.8%

- AA, Bachelor's or Advanced
- Some College (No Degree)

TUSD is in the news a lot for its issues

grams. Let's not lose the forest for the

trees in that. If we have programs that

with the State and some ethnic pro-

- High School Graduate
- Less than High School

Source: Lumina Foundation

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY EDUCATION IN ARIZONA

18.2%

13.6%

9.6%

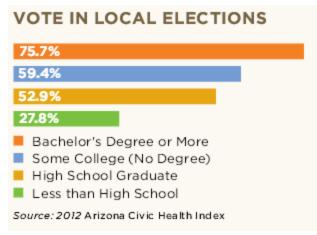
4.7%

- Less than High School
- High School Diploma
- Some College/AA Degree
- Bachelor's Degree or More

Source: U.S. Census, 2010 American Community Survey

result in improved educational outputs, embrace them.

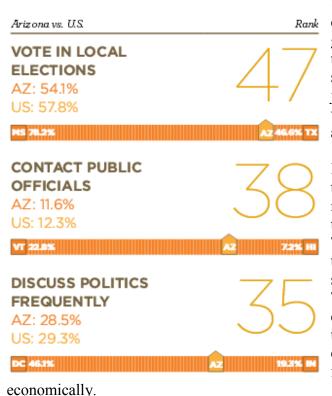
The study also tied participation in civic events to educational achievement:



So how does Arizona rank in terms of civic engagement?

2012 ARIZONA CIVIC HEALTH INDEX

It ties back to educational attainment.



The Arizona We Want study identified eight goals we value in Arizona. The #1 goal was to enhance our educational system. The #2 goal was job creation. As I showed in the earlier graph, they're joined at the hip. Goals 6, 7 and 8 are developing young talent, civic engagement, and community involvement.

I know I don't stand alone in believing the State Legislature and Governor missed the boat in the level of funding they provided to education at all levels. There's still litigation making its way through the court system that may resolve some of the financial questions, but what The Arizona We Want study demonstrated clearly is that by investing in education, and with an emphasis on minority education, we indisputably stand to benefit in the long term, both socially and

If you'd like to read through the whole report, you can find it at <u>The Arizona We Want website</u>. It includes a lot more than what I've shared here. It's worth the read.

Homeless Solutions Meeting

Reflect back on that Gallop Poll statistic that says only 12% of Arizonans believe people in their community care about one another. Those 12% are right, at least as far as Tucson is concerned. We do care about one another.

Last Tuesday, I was pleased to be joined by the Mayor, three of my staff members, and Brianda Vila-Henninger from Ward 3 at the Vineyard Christian Community for a wide ranging discussion of our homeless population. The intent was to engage the faith community in chipping away at this intractable issue.

Also at the meeting were representatives from a variety of churches and social service agencies, including the Gospel Rescue Mission, Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Sister Jose's, Central City Assembly, Primavera, Old Pueblo Services, and about 50 more people who came representing their groups and with an interest in sharing and learning more about the many moving pieces of homelessness.

Perhaps the largest benefit from the meeting was to see the cross-pollinating of ideas that continued between the providers once we ended the larger group discussion. As I continue to attend these sorts of meetings, it becomes more and more clear to me that if we could set in place more effective means for different agencies to speak and share what they're doing individually, we could avoid duplication of effort and very possibly avoid losing people simply because one particular group didn't know where to plug them in. That's the exchange that continued between groups on Tuesday evening.

The other takeaway is that 4Tucson's social service domain chair will form a subcommittee of attendees to talk about ways they can get involved. There were several options tossed into the conversation. The subcommittee members will evaluate their own resources and come back to me with some proposals. I look forward to that follow through.

We aren't going to 'solve' homelessness, but we can enlist the efforts of the caring community more effectively. I'm grateful to Dave Drum and the 4Tucson leadership for hosting the meeting, and for their willingness to step into the homeless issue. Baby steps, but steps.

Another example of how caring we are as a community can be found in the work being done through the Ben's Bells project. Last week, they hosted a very interesting presentation from the Avielle Foundation director Jeremy Richman. His daughter, Avielle, was one of the kids who was shot in the Sandy Hook tragedy. Since then, he has put everything he has into the study of brain health, and how we might use neurological signs as predictors of violent tendencies. The goal, of course, is early ben's treatment. We need to tackle the issue of gun safety from all angles.

project For their part, Jeanette Mare and the Ben's Bells group is in schools and workplaces spreading the word of kindness. If you go to the Ben's Bells website, you'll see their Kind Campus and Kind Colleagues programs. Both are ways to bring the message to the people you and your kids in-

teract with on a daily basis. It's good stuff. I hope you take a moment to check it out.

Cox Conserves Heroes Program

One more example of how the 12% of us who believe that others really care about the community are right.

On Wednesday, September 9th, The Trust for Public Land and Cox Communications are going to honor three people who are serving in the community, largely without any acclaim. The Tucson Botanical Gardens will host the event beginning at 5:30pm.

Through the program, three local environmental nonprofits will receive \$5,000 donations to support the continuation of their work. On the 9th, one of them will be chosen to receive an additional \$5K award. The intent is to enhance the work that these groups do to create, preserve, or enhance our shared outdoor spaces. This year's finalists are:

Mike Birrer—Living Streets Alliance
Marilyn Hanson—Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination
John Jordan—Trout Unlimited AZ State Council

Congratulations to each of the individuals and to the groups they represent. There's a ton of good work going on in the City.

Two Dog Items

There's a "National Day" for everything. August 31st is National Dog Day. Who knew?

Well, in honor of that, Sierra Davenport from the City Parks Department shared an instructional video related to the many dog parks we have around town, and the rules governing their use. Here's a link to her video: http://bit.ly/1CHkTGA

Not to be outdone by Sierra, the Dog Day folks have their own website: http://bit.ly/1hGjpU6

Remember, if you visit one of our dog parks, your pooch has to be licensed and vaccinated.

To help you come into compliance with that requirement, remember our September 12th event at the Ward 6 Office. Through the hard work of Andy Squire from the City Manager's Office, we now have a flyer to help get the word out.



City of Tucson Ward 6 Dog Licensing, Free Rabies Vaccination, & Low Cost Spay/Neuter Education Event!

The City of Tucson, Pima County Animal
Care, and the Humane Society of Southern Arizona
are teaming up to kick off Tucson's
"Love Your Pup? License UP!" campaign with a
licensing and FREE rabies vaccination event!



What can you do at the event?

License your Spayed or Neutered pup for just \$16

- Get your Senior Citizen Discount pup license Spayed/Neutered \$11, Unaltered \$18
- Get a <u>Free</u> rabies vaccination from 10 am to 12 noon for pups (and grown up dogs)
 3 months or older in good health!
- Get your pup microchipped by HSSA for \$10

To make a great event even better.... <u>WE ARE WAIVING LATE FEES!</u> So if you have a pet who never got a license or whose license has expired grab your latest rabies renewal certificate and come to this event to get your pup Licensed Up!

What else could we possibly pack into this event?

Great opportunities to learn about **low cost Spay and Neuter options**, animal care in our community, and the folks who give their time and money to do it like:

The Border Collie Rescue Group / No Kill Pima County Advocates / Hermitage Cat Shelter / Handi-Dogs









Join Us!

Saturday, September 12, 2015, 10 AM - 2 PM

~ Vaccinations from 10 – 12 ~

Any pup in line by 12 will be vaccinated

Ward 6 Council Office 3202 E 1st Street

(Just East of Speedway and Country Club)



And did we mention?

Pet Club will be giving away dog goodies & No Kill Pima County will be holding a free raffle of a "For the Love of Dog" basket!



Parking available at Century Link Lot directly West of the Ward 6 Office.

For more information please call: 791-4601

Karyn Zoldan with Tucson Tails will be at the No Kill Pima County table conducting the raffle. Come and be a part of the event. It will be educational, and it will give you a chance to take some important steps on behalf of your four-legged family member.



What's missing from this promotional logo is the hard work Shelli Hall from Visit Tucson

has invested in pulling off this event. During the process, she may well have developed this badge to commemorate the fun:



But here we are, ready to celebrate Tucson's first truly collaborative film festival. It'll include eight of our top film festivals for a City-wide festival over the October 8-10 weekend.

The Festivals involved include the Arizona International Film Festival, Arizona Underground Film Festival, Native Eyes Film Showcase, Tucson Cine Mexico, Tucson Film and Music Festival, Tucson International Jewish Film Festival, and Tucson Terrorfest. All of those shows will be down at the Temple of Music and Art, splitting between their auditorium and the cabaret upstairs. Here's that part of the schedule:

10/8 @ 6:30pm – Raise the Roof

10/8 @ 7pm – Maina

10/8 @ 9pm – Dropkick

10/9 (a) 7pm – Sounds of Tucson

10/9 @ 9pm – Death in the Desert

10/10 @ 7pm – Gueros

10/10@ 9:30pm – Landmine goes Click

There will also be a special screening of the 40th Anniversary of Martin Scorsese's *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore*. That screening will take place at The Loft Cinema on October 10th at 7pm. It was filmed around Tucson and Southern Arizona. You'll recognize locations such as the Chicago Music Store, the Monterey Village Shopping Center, and the intersection of Speedway and Wilmot (all in Ward 6, I might add).



A comment on Scorcese: the Guardian recently reported that for the purposes of his next film, he will participate in what's called the Gun Neutral/One Less Gun Campaign. The Campaign will involve destroying one real gun for each fake one that's depicted on the screen. Yes, the NRA is not amused.

Many thanks to all who are involved in this event. Here's a little more on the Festival, and how you can get advanced purchase tickets.

Watch the teasers and film trailers <u>here</u>. View schedule and buy tickets <u>here</u>.

And I'll take this opportunity to remind you of the 9/9 Regular Session agenda item during which we will consider a Memorial that'll be sent to our Congressional Delegation and

each of the State legislators who represent parts of Pima County. The Memorial will encourage Attorney General Loretta Lynch to immediately crack down on straw purchase vendors, and all local gun dealers to adopt the Brady Code of Conduct. More on that next week.

Soda Stream



You may have seen these home carbonators. They're pretty easy to use, but I'm going to share that you need to follow the directions. I know, not something many guys take seriously at first, but in this case it's recommended.

First, you fill the bottle with water. Ok so far. Then you add the carbonization. Then you add the flavoring. Note to those who would reverse steps two and three – if you do, the concoction explodes during carbonizing. I can only report this because I inadvertently gave it a try and had a bit of a mess to clean up afterwards.

In the same sense that you don't touch a wall with a 'wet paint' sign nearby, it's good to take the instruction steps in the order in which they appear.

Sincerely,

Steve Kozachik

Stozaelio

Council Member, Ward 6 Ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Events and Entertainment

Nature Connects, A LEGO Brick Exhibit

September 11, 2015 – January 3, 2016, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 North Alvernon Way

Half of a million LEGO® bricks will arrive at the Tucson Botanical Gardens this fall. Nature Connects©, a traveling LEGO brick exhibit, features 13 nature-inspired sculptures by artist Sean Kenney. During the four month exhibit, guests of all ages will discover the connections between art, nature, play and design. A LEGO playroom will be available on select dates; the LEGO movie will be shown monthly in the evenings amongst the sculptures; and a design challenge will encourage builders of all ages to show off their skills. https://www.tucsonbotanical.org/events/nature-connects-a-lego-brick-exhibit/

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Saturday, September 12, 2015, 8 am - Noon

Himmel Park, north parking lot on 1st St between Tucson Blvd and Treat Ave

Household Hazardous Waste are products labeled toxic, danger, poison, flammable, etc. These are potentially harmful to people, pets and the environment. They should never be

poured down the drain. Through the HHW Program, residents can drop off their materials and they will be safely recycled, reused, or disposed of properly. The Tucson HHW Program is available to all residents. Fees are charged based on residency. For more information, visit: www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw.

Tucson Water Customers Needed for Online Survey

Tucson Water and the University of Arizona are conducting an online research study to assess and improve communication about water conservation rebate programs. The survey (link below) is for Tucson Water customers who have not participated in previous surveys or received rebates from Tucson Water. To be eligible, you must be 18 years or older, pay a residential water bill to the City of Tucson, and own a home, condo, or manufactured home. The survey takes approximately 20 minutes, and a gift card will be given to eligible participants. If you have any questions, email renas31@email.arizona.edu.

Take the survey: http://bit.ly/1NQwnZi

Ongoing

Mission Garden, 929 W Mission Ln

Saturdays 8 am – 12 pm, April to November; 12 pm – 4 pm, December to March

A re-creation of the Spanish Colonial walled garden that was part of Tucson's historic San

Agustin Mission. Features Sonoran Desert-adapted heritage fruit-trees, traditional local heirloom crops and edible native plants. For guided tours call 520-777-9270 and leave message.

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S 6th Ave

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm www.childernsmuseumtucson.org

Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N Alvernon Way

www.tucsonbotanical.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S Stone Ave

www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

<u>Fox Theatre</u>, 17 W Congress St

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Hotel Congress, 311 E Congress St

hotelcongress.com

Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd

www.loftcinema.com

Rialto Theatre, 318 E Congress St

www.rialtotheatre.com/

The Rogue Theatre at The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd

www.theroguetheatre.org

Arizona State Museum, 1013 E University Blvd

www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

Arizona Theater Company, 330 S Scott Ave

www.arizonatheatre.org

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N Main Ave

May 25, 2015 - September 7, 2015: FREE Admission for Military Families.

July 25, 2015 - October 11, 2015: Arizona Biennial 2015

www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org

Meet Me at Maynards, 311 E Congress St (north entrance on Toole)

A social walk/run through the Downtown area. Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too! Hotel Congress Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd

February 7, 2015– February 7, 2016, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

"Meet the Trilobites – Arizona's First Inhabitants," the new exhibit at the Flandrau Science Center and Planetarium, features world-class trilobite fossils from around the globe. www.uamineralmuseum.org

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave.

Tuesday – Thursday, Sunday: 11:00am - 3:00pm; Friday & Saturday: 10:00am - 4:00pm www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org